Public awareness programme in Himachal Pradesh

†2410. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal regarding "Introduction of Information Technology for Public Awareness in Himachal Pradesh" had been sent to the Additional Director Department of Information and Technology by the Director, Information and Public Relations, Himachal Pradesh *vide* their letter dated the 30th October, 2002 for approval so that the information regarding various markets (mandis) in the country could be provided to the farmers of the State and an awareness could be created amongst general public about Government's Development and welfare programme; and

(b) if so, what further action has been taken thereon and by when, a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Information Technology received a proposal from Government of Himachal Pradesh for "Introduction of Information Technology for Public Awareness in Himachal Pradesh" seeking recommendations for financial assistance under Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) Programme through the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

Department of Information Technology gave its recommendations on the above proposal in the month of December 2002 to the State Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Recruitment in TCIL

2411. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of staff recruited in Telecommunications Consultants India Limited after the take over of the present CMD;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.